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(INTELLIGENCE)

(BY DANIEL F. GILMORE)

WASHINGTON (UPI) -- THE HOUSE INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE QUESTIONED DEPUTY CIA DIRECTOR BOBBY RAY INMAN TODAY ABOUT A NOW-DISBANDED TOP SECRET NAVY SPY PROGRAM INVOLVING A CIA AGENT WHO NOW WORKS FOR LIBYAN LEADER MOHAMMAR KHADAFY.

INMAN APPEARED FOR MORE THAN TWO HOURS AT A CLOSED SESSION OF THE PANEL, WHICH IS TRYING TO DETERMINE WHAT, IF ANY, OFFICIAL TIES OR CONNECTIONS THE CIA MAINTAINED WITH TWO AGENTS AFTER THEY LEFT THE ORGANIZATION IN 1976.

THE EX-AGENTS, EDWIN P. WILSON AND FRANK E. TERPIL, WERE INDICTED IN 1980 ON CHARGES OF SUPPLYING EXPLOSIVES AND ARRANGING ARMS SALES FOR LIBYA AND RECRUITING U.S. MERCENARIES TO TRAIN TERRORISTS THERE.

REP. ROMANO MAZZOLI, D-KY., CHAIRMAN OF AN INTELLIGENCE SUBCOMMITTEE ON LEGISLATION, TOLD REPORTERS AFTER THE MEETING THAT WILSON WAS "CONNECTED" WITH TASK FORCE 157, THE TOP SECRET NAVAL OPERATION, IN THE MID 1970S.

MAZZOLI WOULD NOT GO INTO DETAILS OF THE PROGRAM BEYOND SAYING THAT "IT WAS AN INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITY" AND INVOLVED PEOPLE WHO WERE NOT AUDITED, WHOSE BACKGROUNDS WERE NOT SUFFICIENTLY CHECKED AND "WHO WERE WILLING TO LINE THEIR OWN POCKETS."

INMAN WAS FORTHCOMING AND SPECIFIC IN HIS TESTIMONY, MAZZOLI SAID. MAZZOLI SAID THE KIND OF OPERATIONS THE TASK FORCE CARRIED OUT PROBABLY WOULD NOT BE PERMITTED TODAY BECAUSE OF CONGRESSIONAL AND OTHER OVERSIGHT PRECAUTIONS ON INTELLIGENCE MATTERS.

BUT, HE SAID, THE COMMITTEE WANTED TO EXAMINE WHETHER ANY FURTHER LEGISLATION WAS REQUIRED TO PREVENT SUCH ABUSES AND TO LOOK AT POSSIBLE RESTRAINTS ON THE ACTIVITIES OF INTELLIGENCE OPERATIVES AFTER THEY LEAVE THEIR AGENCIES.

MAZZOLI SAID WITNESSES AT THURSDAY'S FINAL CLOSED HEARING WOULD INCLUDE FBI DIRECTOR WILLIAM WEBSTER AND ARMY AND JUSTICE DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS.

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